REMARKS

Claims 7–10, 14, 15, 19, 20, 24, 25, and 29 are pending. No amendment has been made. A certified translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 50-122601, the priority document of U.S. Patent No. 4,264,667 ("Murakami et al."), and a certificate of translation are submitted with this Response.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over Murakami et al.

Claims 7-10, 15, 20, and 25 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by Murakami et al. Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

The Office Action contends that Murakami et al. disclose at least one embodiment having the claimed shrinkage and adhesive properties. Applicants disagree. Specifically, the Office Action contends that there does not appear to be a translation error on the term "shrinkage" (in col. 7, line 55) because the same paragraph refers to the film being "shrunk." Applicants hereby submit a certified translation of Japanese Patent Application No. 50-122601, the priority document of Murakami. Applicants point out that page 10, lines 19-21 of the certified translation, which correspond to col. 7, lines 54-55 of Murakami et al., clearly state that "in case of treatment at the shrunk state, the **relaxation ratio** is preferably within 50%."

Applicants further point out that, as one of ordinary skill in the art would understand, that the relaxation ratio refers to the ratio or relaxation used in a relaxation heat treatment. Applicants hereby attach an excerpt from the English translation of a publication entitled "PET Film – Drawing, Characteristics, Evaluation, Development of High Performances and Development of Applications." Figure 12 on page 6 of the publication illustrates a relaxation heat treatment of a PET film. Relaxation is achieved by having the winding roll circumferential rate lower than the supply roll circumferential rate, as indicated on page 6, lines 13-14. Relaxation ratio is defined as

$$\frac{\text{supply roll circumferential rate - winding roll circumferential rate}}{\text{winding roll circumferential rate}} \times 100\%.$$

On the other hand, the shrinkage recited in the claims refers to hot water shrinkage. As stated on page 20, lines 19-26 of the specification, the heat shrinkage is determined by subjecting a film to a no-load treatment in hot water and measuring the film length before and after the treatment. Heat shrinkage is defined as

$$\frac{\text{Length before shrinkage - Length after shrinkage}}{\text{Length before shrinkage}} \times 100\%.$$

As such, the relaxation ratio disclosed in Murakami et al. is completely different from the shrinkage recited in the claims. Murakami et al. therefore does not teach or suggest a heat shrinkage of within 50%, let alone the specific heat shrinkage properties as recited in the claims. Additionally, Murakami et al. does not teach or suggest the adhesive retention property as recited in the claims either.

Moreover, as stated in the Responses dated February 5, 2008 and July 5, 2007 and as evidenced by the data shown in the Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.132 submitted on July 5, 2007, Murakami et al. does not inherently teach a film with the heat shrinkage and adhesive retention properties as recited in the claims.

For at least the reasons stated above, Murakami does not teach or suggest, expressly or inherently, a polyester film having the shrinkage and adhesive properties as recited in the present claims. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Murakami et al. in view of Yoshinaka et al.

Claims 14, 19, 24, and 29 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Murakami et al. in view of U.S. Patent No. 4,996,291 ("Yoshinaka et al."). Applicants respectfully traverse the rejections.

As discussed above, Murakami et al. does not teach or suggest all the limitations as recited in the present claims. The deficiency is not cured by Yoshinaka et al. because Yoshinaka et al. does not teach the heat shrinkage or adhesive retention properties recited in the claims either.

For at least the reasons stated above, a *prima facie* case of obviousness has not been estaglished. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

Applicants submit that the claims are allowable and an early and favorable action to that effect is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned to discuss any issues regarding this application.

In the event that the filing of this paper is deemed not timely, applicants petition for an appropriate extension of time. The Office is authorized to charge any underpayment or credit any overpayment to Kenyon & Kenyon LLP's Deposit Account No. 11-0600.

Respectfully submitted,

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(Translation)

PET FILM

-Drawing, Characteristics, Evaluation, Development of High Performances and Development of Applications-

Supervised by Yukio MITSUISHI

TECHNICAL INFORMATION INSTITUTE CO., LTD.

approximately 200°C for several hours to shrink sufficiently. After cooling, the resulting film is taken out and is used. This method is simple, but oligomer precipitations may occur at a film surface to lower transparency or cause contamination troubles in subsequent steps.

In recent years, films with heat shrinkage lowered at a side of film manufacturers have become commercially available as high-performance films, and attracts attention as differentiated films. Figure 12 shows an exemplary manufacturing process of such films. A raw PET film is newly subjected to relaxation heat treatment in a heat treatment oven maintained at 180 to 200°C, and after cooling, the film is wound. A winding roll is decelerated by several percent with respect to a supply roll. Table 5 shows performances of a low-heat shrinkage PET film obtained through such a relaxation heat treatment.

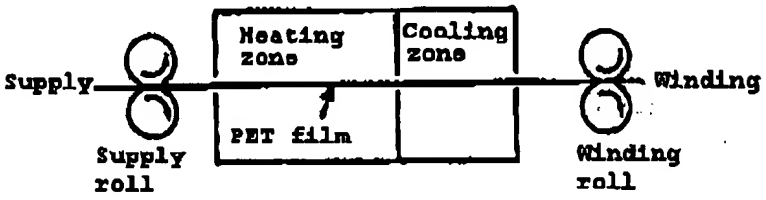

Figure 12: Continuous off-line heat shrinkage lowering installation

As a re-heat treatment increases costs, various methods for obtaining a low-heat shrinkage PET film have been proposed, in which a film after film formation is subjected to a relaxation heat treatment by in-line processing in an installation, similar to that shown in Figure 12, prior to winding[19]. Typical performances of an exemplary film are shown in Figure 13 and Table 6. Furthermore, a method has been proposed in which a clip relaxes in a machine direction, in addition to toe-in in a transverse direction, in heat setting step to cooling step at the latter part of a lateral drawing machine during film formation[20].

It seems that low-heat shrinkage PET films with properties required for bases of FPC and membrane switch, such as flame retardancy, easily-adhering properties, easily-printing property, antistatic property and the like will

(Imprint)
PET FILM -Drawing, Characteristics, Evaluation, Development of High Performances and Development of Applications-

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